

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action the claims were again rejected as being obvious in view of a combination of the disclosures of the newly cited Ludtke and Griesau patents together with the disclosure of the previously cited Hahm patent. In response, the claims have been amended in a manner which is believed to place all of the claims in condition for allowance.

Specifically, amended independent Claim 1 requires that a control system of the present invention is arranged to include a control apparatus that receives, from a controlled apparatus, an operation panel including display elements used to control the controlled apparatus. A specific display element is required and is used to control a specific function of the controlled apparatus, and a remote control device having first and second operating units is required, wherein the first operating unit is used to control the specific function of the controlled apparatus using the operation panel and the second operating unit is used to control the specific function of the controlled apparatus without using the operation panel. Amended independent Claim 1 also requires that if the second command is sent from the control apparatus to the controlled apparatus when a control unit included in the control apparatus determines that the second operating unit is operated to control the specific function of the controlled apparatus, the control unit apparatus is arranged to update the operation panel using data to be sent from the controlled apparatus to the control apparatus in response to the second command so as to indicate that the specific function of the controlled apparatus is controlled.

Applicants respectfully submit that these features of the present invention are not disclosed in the cited references. That is, as stated in the Office Action, the reference of Ludtke patent fails to disclose a second operation unit for operating a specific function of a controlled apparatus. That reference also fails to disclose that a control unit of a control apparatus updates

an operation panel using data sent from the controlled apparatus to the control apparatus in response to a second command. Next, the Hahm patent discloses, in Fig.1, an operation apparatus which has a plurality of keys to execute predetermined operations using a display panel (Figs.5 and 8). This reference thus does not disclose, however, a second operating unit which is used to control the specific function of the controlled apparatus without using the operation panel as required in amended independent Claim 1. Accordingly, the Hahm reference does not disclose or suggest to update the operation panel using data to be sent from the controlled apparatus to the control apparatus in response to the second command sent from the control apparatus when the second operating unit is operated, so as to indicate that the specific function of the controlled apparatus is controlled. Furthermore, the cited Griesau patent is merely relied on as prior art which teaches a remote controller (Fig.1) which has first and second operation portions. Therefore, none of the cited references of Ludtke, Hahm and Griesau disclose or suggest the second operating unit of the remote control device and the operation panel update based on the operation of the second operating unit.

Referring now to independent Claims 11 and 19, it is noted that those claims are amended in a manner similar to the above-characterized amendments to Claim 1, wherein Claim 11 is an apparatus claim and Claim 19 is a method claim. Thus, the above-described discussion of patentability applied to amended independent Claim 1 is also applicable to each of the amended independent Claims 11 and 19, and to all of the dependent claims.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3939.

For these various reasons Applicants believe that the claims are allowable, and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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